GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6958
ANSWERED ON:13.05.2002
DECLINE IN GROUND WATER LEVEL IN RAJASTHAN
VSM (RETD.) COL. CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of sharp decline/shrinking of ground water table in some of the States, especially in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, whether the Government have launched any comprehensive plan to fill the ground water artificially to avoid severe water crisis in drought prone areas of Rajasthan;

(c) if so, the funds earmarked for implementation of artificial Ground Water Development Schemes in various States including Rajasthan; and

(d) the funds allocated to Rajasthan during the last two years and likely to be released during 2002-2003?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) Yes, Sir. There are gradual decline in the levels of ground water in some parts of the country including the State of Rajasthan. Water levels have declined to the extent of less than 2 metres to more than 20 metres in parts of Churu, Western part of Jhunjhunu, Southern part of Bikaner, Northern part of Jodhpur, Southern part of Barmer, Pali and Sirohi districts of Rajasthan.

(b) Water being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to plan, finance and execute schemes for augmenting water resources. The Central Ground Water Board approved 18 pilot projects for rooftop rain water harvesting and recharge in various parts of Rajasthan under its Central Sector Scheme for Study of Recharge to Ground Wateron "pilot basis" during the IX Five Year Plan.

(c) The State-wise position of funds allocated for recharging works under the Central Ground Water Board's scheme forStudy of Recharge to Ground Water on "pilot basis" is given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) During the last two years funds provided for completion of projects under the scheme in Rajasthan was Rs. 73.26 lakh. An amount of Rs. 31.08 lakh is likely to be provided to be provided to the State during 2002-03 for completion of ongoing projects under the scheme.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY OF PART (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 6958 DATED 13.05.2002

FUNDS ALLOCATED TO VARIOUS STATES/UNION TERRITORIES UNDER THE CENTRAL GROUND WATER BO SCHEME FOR STUDY OF RECHARGE TO GROUND WATER ON PILOT BASIS DURING IX PLAN

Sl. No.	State/UTs	Amount (in Lakh)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	54.55
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	20.00
3.	Assam	50.00
4.	Bihar	9.84
5.	Chandigarh	64.23
6.	Delhi	87

7	Gujarat	20.05
8.	Haryana	72.86
9.	Himachal Pradesh	81.65
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	78.96
11.	Jharkhand	25.73
12.	Karnataka	28.75
13.	Kerala	75.43
14.	Madhya Pradesh	53.85
15.	Maharashtra	81.63
16.	Meghalaya	20.32
17.	Mizoram	28
18.	Nagaland	90.96
19.	Orissa	679.50
20.	Punjab	272.94
21.	Rajasthan	81.72
22.	Tamil Nadu	145.55
23.	Uttar Pradesh	75.97
24.	Uttaranchal	2.00
25.	West Bengal	130.27
26.	Lakshadweep	8.00
27.	Andaman & Nicobar	8.39
Total		2348.15